

REMARKS

This timely replies the Office Action mailed on May 18, 2004. Claims 1-18 and 34-36 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 6 and 36 are independent claims.

In view of the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending objections and rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Finality of Action

In response to Applicants' previous reply, the Examiner stated "Applicant's arguments ... have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn". Nevertheless, the Examiner made the current Office Action final based on the identical reference even though the Applicants' previous amendments were not made for avoiding prior art or narrowing the claimed invention (see page 12) and hence did not necessitate the new ground of rejection. Thus, withdrawal of the finality of action is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-18 and 34-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,593,979 issued to Ha, *et al.* ("Ha"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 recites "a mold frame comprising a main panel, side walls surrounding the main panel and a first engaging hole formed through the main panel thereof; a backlight assembly disposed on an upper surface of the main panel and comprising a light source". This means (a) the main panel is surrounded by the sidewalls (b) the first engaging hole is formed through the main panel, and (c) the backlight assembly is disposed on the main surface.

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that "Ha at least in figure 5 ... shows engaging hole (410) in mold frame 400" (Office Action, page 6). However, the first locking depression 410 is formed on the upper and outer surfaces of a side wall of the mold frame 400. The first locking depression 410 is not formed through a main panel which is surrounded by the sidewall.

Thus, Ha fails to disclose "a first engaging hole formed through the main panel thereof".

Similarly, independent claim 6 recites "a mold frame comprising a main panel, sidewalls surrounding the main panel and a first engaging hole formed through the main panel", and independent claim 36 recites "a mold frame comprising a main panel, side walls surrounding the main panel and a first hole formed through the main panel". As mentioned above, in Ha, the first locking depression is formed on the upper and outer surfaces of the sidewall of the mold frame 400, but there is no hole formed though the main panel.

Also, as shown in Figs. 1, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, Ha shows the engaging holes formed in the front case 780 and, as shown in Fig. 13, the screw 786 bypasses outside the mold frame 400. Thus, the engagement mechanism of Ha is substantially different from the subjected matter of the claimed invention.

For this reason, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 6 and 36 are patentable over Ha. Claims 2-5, 7-18, 34 and 35 that are dependent from claims 1, 6 and 36 would be also patentable at least for the same reason. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection of claims 1-18 and 34-36.

6/93, 9/99

not
relied
in claims
not covered
in scope

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submits that all of the stated objections and grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Summary of invention
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para 28 - search date
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